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This I believe

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  A world without music would be colorless and dull. Music is such a powerful thing. Music is such a powerful thing. It would be a world without heart or passion, a world without imagination and dreaming, a world without self-expression and individualization. Music is like a common tongue, spoken and enjoyed by every nation, every race, every age, and every personality. When a person hears music, they are transported out of their average everyday life and into a world with splashes of brilliant color. Music has the power to change a mood, cause a listener to recall happy memories, put a precious infant to sleep, inspire dreamers, pump up an athlete’s adrenaline before a game, tell a story, teach a tiny toddler how to say the alphabet, or offer comfort to any given person. Music is so much more than a tiny pluck on a string or black and white symbols on a piece of paper. It is an art, and for many, music is life.

Fashion fads such as pegged jeans, hairspray caked hair, long pleated skirts come and go. Leaders of the nation are elected and then are replaced years later. Technology moves as fast as the speed of light, constantly changing the way we live our life. The citizens of the twenty first century have almost nothing in common with people from the earlier decades except the enjoyment and appreciation of music. Three hundred years ago, woman dressed up in floor length ball gowns to go to the opera house and get lost in a world of Mozart. Children of that age plunked on the keys of the piano, opening their minds to a whole new world of learning and imagination that they used for the rest of their lives. Today, friends and families still come together to enjoy concerts from various musicians. All ages still learn the wonders of creating music from their own instruments. Music is always there.

Music has absolutely changed the world. The lyrics, "Heal the world. Make it a better place" from one of Michael Jackson's song speak truth, and are known by many and ring throughout the world. The song "Imagine" by John Lennon teaches people about living for today. Events in history, such as wars, were accompanied by protest songs. They may not have stopped killing or helped bring troops home, but music helped people speak their minds and left a mark on the time line of our history. Imprisoned black slaves, working hard in the fields, sang songs to communicate secret messages or to help them get through the day. From the lyrics of The Beatles to the songs of Sesame Street, each song means something different to every person.

Music creates a certain bond between the creator, performer and the listener. This connection goes far beyond borders and into other countries with different cultures. It is just amazing that while wars and fighting is going on, music can be a common friend. As a creator, performer and a listener, I get to experience all the amazing things music has to offer first hand. There is absolutely nothing like coming home from a bad day at school and just getting lost in the pages of my Haydn book; letting my fingers dance across the keys of the piano vigorously to get out anger, or soft and delicately in sorrow. Nothing compares to singing with friends, creating beautiful harmonies together and telling stories through song. Composing allows me to put my feelings into music when I cannot express them in words. Sitting in the middle of a huge concert band playing my saxophone surrounded by all different kinds of personalities, each who have different memories and experiences from their past, we all somehow come together to recreate a masterpiece. My instruments are always there for me, a friend when no one else is. No other hobby or job can touch so many strangers at once, no other create so much impact.

I believe in the power of music.